

REPORT

To: BELLSHILL LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP	Subject: CLOSURE OF MAIN STREET TO THE WEST OF THE SIR MATT BUSBY CENTRE	
From: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES HEAD OF ROAD & TRANSPORTATION		
Date: 22 JULY 2011	Ref: S/TT/78/08	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to respond to the Bellshill Local Area Partnership's request to re-evaluate the proposed closure of Main Street immediately to the west of the Sir Matt Busby Centre.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following a public consultation exercise the Planning & Environment Committee, in December 2001, approved Option 8 as the basis for the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan. Option 8 included the closure of Main Street to the west of the Sir Matt Busby Centre.
- 2.2 Implementation of the closure was programmed for late in the overall works to reflect the uncertainty surrounding the roundabout which accesses the Tesco store, with the section of Main Street in question required to act as a main traffic diversion while the roundabout was under construction.
- 2.3 The closure is currently proposed for the financial year 2011/12 but will be subject to the successful promotion of a Road Closure Order

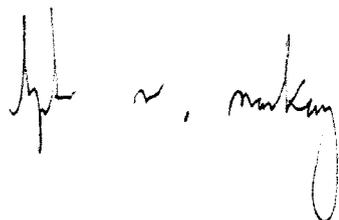
3. Considerations

- 3.1 The LAP requests the re-evaluation of the closure in light of the time since the original proposals were approved.
- 3.2 Monitoring of the completed Bellshill Town Centre traffic flows has not yet begun, since the associated Town Centre Action Plan is not complete, resulting in a re-evaluation not being possible at this time. However, it is intended to commission traffic micro-simulation modelling work in the current financial year which, when complete, will be able to analyse current traffic flows and patterns as well as examine and quantify the effects of any proposed alterations to the road network.
- 3.3 In the interim it is only possible to list the effects of the closure on traffic, which may be summarised as follows, noting that the list is not exhaustive and that each point may be considered good or bad dependent upon point of view :
- The closure will reduce the traffic flow on the Glebe Street approach to the Hamilton Road/Neilson Street junction which would allow additional "green time" to be assigned to the other arms of the junction resulting in reduced queues and journey times on this part of the network.

- The closure would remove through traffic from the Sir Matt Busby Centre and the West Church, which figured prominently during the consultation period.
- The closure restricts the choice of routes to and from the Locket Yett housing estate and generally restricts routes through the town centre's road network.
- The closure is likely to increase traffic at the Gartcosh Walk/North Road roundabout resulting in longer peak period queues and delays.

4. Recommendations

4.1 The Local Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of this report

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Mackay', with a stylized flourish at the end.

GRAHAM MACKAY
HEAD OF ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report please contact William M. Hazel, Business Manager (Roads Operations) on 01698 274205 (17 June 2011)